



Completion Report

COD-CAN-ASF-N01 Mbuji-Mayi, DRC
Reporting Period: January to June 16

Agricultural Support for impoverished farmers

Budget: \$15,000 – fully funded!

Update:

This project is supporting impoverished farmers in three villages in the middle of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Through work on a demonstration site, farmers are provided with new agricultural methods, leading to improved productivity.

When we last wrote, 3 hectares of cowpeas had been planted, and 3 hectares of cassava. The cowpea was harvested and stored for further planting next growing season. Given the unimproved nature of the soil, the crop was less than anticipated, but cowpea feeds nitrogen into the soil, and thus was an ideal first crop. There are expectations for an improved crop on these fields next planting season.



The farm before work began



The cassava crop

and their children. Such relatively large gains from such a small project demonstrates the depths of the poverty in this community, and we are so pleased we have been part of enabling this.

Our project partner is encouraged by the results of this first year and is seeking to plant out more of the 14 hectares next year. We are looking to continue to work with them as they teach further farming methods and seek to improve the lives of the community.

We hope you are also encouraged by the progress achieved over this first year. Thank you for your part in making this possible!

The cassava will be harvested in November.

Over the year we have supported this project, 468 people have directly benefited, 260 of them being women. These people have learnt improved farming techniques which they can and have used on their own property. Unemployment is down as more people have taken up farming with the new skills they have learnt. 35 children were able to attend school as a result of their parents earning enough to pay school fees.

Other beneficiaries were able to buy more and different types of food, broadening out their nutrition base and improving the health of their family. Still others were able to buy clothes for themselves



Manually weeding